completed. During these tests, a stable combustion has been achieved for nealy 7 seconds at supersonic speeds corresponding to an inlet Mach number of 6 (*i.e.* six times the speed of sound); The next step in the development of this engine is a flight test of an integrated SCRAMJET propulsion module comprising of air-intake, combustor and nozzle, in a two stage RH-560 sounding rocket.

(b) For this activity, a sum of Rs. 460 lakhs in 2005-06 and Rs. 896 lakhs in BE 2006-07 have been allocated.

(c) The technology is completely indigenous.

**Change in base year to calculate GDP**

1133. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to alter the change in base year in calculating the GDP after a gap of ten years to a gap of six years to proejct an impressive GDP growth rate; and

(b) if so, the reaons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) In the past, National Accounts Statistics were revised decennially using the information on working force from the Population Census. However, in the previous series of national accounts with the base year 1993-94 (introduced in February, 1999), the workforce data from the Quinquennial Employment and Unemployment Survey, 1993-94 conducted by the National sample survey Organisation (NSSO) in its 50th round was used, as it was observed that data on Worker Participation Rate (WPR) as captured by the NSS better than that through the Population Census. In continuation with this practice, the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) introduced the new series of national accounts (base year 1999-2000) using the WPR data available from the next NSS 55th round Quinquennial Employment and Unemployment Servey in 1999-2000. Further, revision of base years of national accounts statistics at shorter intervals of time of about 5 years captures more realistically the structural changes in the economy and is in line with the best statistical practices.